The author elects to base functional kidney diagnosis on ureteral catheterization, an act occasionally impossible of accomplishment. He ignores absolutely the kidney test by indigocarmin, whereby the functional sufficiency of the kidney may be gauged when it will be impossible by any test dependent upon bilateral ureteral catheterization. Moreover, the phloridzin test, which is recommended, has been proved to be unreliable, no glycosuria occurring even from normal kidneys.

Exception may also be taken, rightfully, as to the advisability of catheterizing the supposedly normal ureter through a bladder infected by descending tuberculosis of the other side. Likewise the urine separator or segregator has today few advocates. Other doctrines are seriously questionable, as for example, in addition to massage, the treatment of chronic prostatitis by such measures as electricity and the mechanical application of heat and cold.

B. A. T.

THE SEXUAL LIFE OF THE CHILD. By ALBERT MOLL, M.D. Translated from the German by EDEN PAUL, M.D. Pp. 339. New York: The Macmillan Company.

THE translation of this work, coming as it does, at a time when such general interest is being taken in eugenics, promises to fill a want felt until now in the preparation for this field of activity.

The author points out that the rational solution of the problems of eugenics must be based on fact and that this definite knowledge, in so far as the normal sexual life of the child, at least, is concerned, has as yet been neglected. The subject is then put before the reader in a systematic and comprehensive way. Every physician, teacher, parent, and social worker should have the information contained in this book at his disposal.

A. A. H.

SEX—ITS ORIGIN AND DETERMINATION. By THOMAS E. REED, M.D. Pp. 313. New York: Rebman Company, 1913.

HAD this book appeared a decade ago, it would have received more attention than at the present day. The observations contained therein were first stimulated by the remarks of Darwin, that, as all present-day animals are descended originally from tidewater organisms, there might exist cycles in some of our life processes, which could be looked upon as the persisting effect of these tidal movements. The author believes that he can trace this effect in, among other phenomena, the "functional phases" of parturition and the alternating male and female phases of the ova, which, as he believes lead to the determination of sex. To refer more specifically to the latter, he says that if the ovum is fertilized during the ebb of the tide, the offspring will be of one sex, and if during the flow of the tide, of the other sex. Moreover, he assures us that his observations bear out his contention.

On the other hand, the evidence is rapidly accumulating that the chromosomal dimorphism of the spermatozoa is the factor upon which sex determination depends, and a recent paper by Wodsedalek in the *Biological Bulletin* gives good evidence that somatic cells of the male and female have likewise different chromosomal constitutions. In view of these developments many of the ideas contained in this volume must be considered as of merely historical interest. W. H. F. A.

BACTERIA. By DR. MAX SCHOTTELIUS, second edition translated by Staff Surgeon HERBERT GEOGHEGAN, R. N. Pp. 324; 10 colored plates and 33 illustrations. London: Oxford University Press and Hodder and Stoughton.

THE present volume represents the translation of the second edition of a previous popular work on bacteria. In this edition the text has been thoroughly revised and the inaccuracies of the first edition corrected. The chapters on "Immunity and Protective Vaccination" and "Protozoa" have been rewritten and enlarged to meet the modern views on these subjects. The work suffers the fault of many translations in being a little verbose and drawn out, but force and clearness are not sacrificed. The discussions are in more or less popular terms, so as to be clearly intelligible to the lay reader. The book, however, is intended for the physician or student of bacteriology, and will give to either a very good general idea of bacteria, their universal distribution in and their relation to various natural processes; it further treats of the manner of action of bacteria in disease with the possibilities and methods of combating diseases caused by them. F. H. K.